THE FRONTIER.

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SOME QUEER THINGS.

We do not believe that the history of any criminal case ever came so near finding the prosecution a part of the defense as is seen in the Scott case.

We find the county attorney blocking at every turn the moves of the attorney general, and in every instance his opposition is meat for the defense.

When it was learned that a change would be taken to Boyd, the defense was then anxious to establish the venue. To do this they knew that they must discover the place where Scott was hung, and to that end they procured a rope, placed it in a convenient place, made a suggestion through the proper channel to the county attorney, who sent the sheriff out to find the evidence. The rope was found by Sheriff Hamilton in a place that was thoroughly searched the day after Scott's death, and in all human probability the rope was placed there to be found and prevent a change being taken to Boyd. If the sheriff and county attorney were not "in with the play" they certainly tumbled to it with an alacrity that strengthens the suspicion heretofore existing that the state is not getting as much as it might out of its officials.

The sheriff can show for his labor in the case, a wagon track found on the banks of the Niobrara, and a rope found in a place where it was not the day after the crime.

The county attorney has the reputation of having done nothing to the detriment of the prisoners. As a pop county official said, "Henry is all right, but he is in the wrong crowd." The "crowd" spoken of was the attorney general and other prosecutors.

The county judge is looked upon with suspicion, since he released the men on bail, circulated the witnesses' vindication through the north country, and drew up the complaint signed by Doty re-arresting the prisoners to prevent their being taken to Boyd. This official also refers to the prisoners as "the boys."

A similar state of affairs never before existed in any county and it is little wonder that the people are sick at heart and want a change.

McHUGH's motto now is "For A United Democracy." He means no doubt, a democracy united with populism. All of his efforts in the past have been directed to that end.

How many men are there left in Holt county now that do NOT surmise that Scott was NOT killed at the instance of men who enjoyed the stolen money and were afraid he would expose them?—Pork Light.

Very few, indeed, Ham.

AN editor in Kansas was lately convicted of printing obscene literature and circulating it through the mails. It is hardly probable that the publication contained anything more noisome than is seen weekly in the populist organ of this county.

SENATOR HILL was stabbing Grover again when he said of the late Andrew Jackson: You may search his writings, his letters, his speeches, his messages and all his public papers, and you will find therein no twaddle about non-partisanship in either national state or municipal government.

WE believe the "whitecap law," which makes counties financially liable for acts of mob violence, is a good one. Vigilance committees will no longer be patted on the back and their members called heroes when the citizens have to pay out hard money to heal the lacerated feelings of the victim. The law will either break up the vigilance committees or bankrupt some of the counties in the state.

OLD HONEST JOHN CRAWFORD took a very active part in amending the sugar bounty bill so that it would include chicory. In his speech supporting the measure he is reported to have said that he did not know that his party would uphold him in his position, and he didn't care whether it did or not, as the industry is one benefitting his county and district and he is in favor of all such enterprises. That is good republican doctrine. Three cheers for Honest John. In all of his years of public life we have at last found one redeeming feature and are more than willing to place it to his credit.

HOUSE roll No. 556, by Ricketts, of Douglas, an act for the suppression of mob violence, was read a third time in the house, Friday and passed—yeas 73, noes 6. This bill provides that any party taken from the hands of officers of justice and assaulted or whipped can recover $1,000 from the county where the assault is made, and that any party suffering lynching shall recover $5,000, or in case of death the legal representative can secure a like amount from the county in which the crime occurs. The nays on the vote were cast by Brady, Dempsey, Goar, Spackman, Van Housen and Robertson of Holt. The latter voted after Myers, of Brown, had insisted upon rule 19 being enforced, which requires every member present to vote.—State Journal.

LET THE RECORDS TALK.

The Sun of last week in a column and a half article reviews our "Independent Steals," and ends its diatribe with the defiant sentence: "Let THE FRONTIER contradict any of these statements." A number of the "statements" are wonderfully and fearfully made and simply astounding in import.

When the Sun undertakes to compare the work done by Scott in 1892, with the work done by Mullen in 1894, the records disclose some interesting facts—not exactly in line with the Sun's figures. We find that in 1892 Scott's fees for collections amounted to $5,113.99, while Mullen's fees for collections amounted to $4,091.44. All of Scott's fees were used up in the salaries of treasurer and assistants. Nothing was turned over to the county. In Mullen's first year, his fees, as stated, amounted to $4,091.44, all of which was used up in the salaries of himself and assistants. Nothing was turned over to the county. Then, simply because Mullen collected less money in 1894 than Scott collected in 1892, it cannot be said that he saved the county the difference between the two amounts. If he had collected as much money—in other words done as much work—he would have paid it out in salaries.

A comparison of the figures of the clerk's office during the same periods show: Cash received as fees by Butler, $4,787.85; Cash received as fees by Bethea, $3,508.12; a difference of $1,279.73 in Butler's favor. During that time Butler paid out for assistants $1,787.30; Bethea paid out for assistants $1,798.14, a difference of $10.84 in Butler's favor. Although Butler did more work by over $1,200, he paid out less money for asistants.

At the time of the board's settlement with Butler for the year of 1892 W. W. Bethea was chairman of the committee which submitted this recommendation.

The committee finds a charge of $200 for making road and assessor's books, and recommend it be not allowed. Also a fee of $1,446 for making tax list of 1892; recommend it be not allowed.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted by the board.

In 1894 Bethea filed a bill and was allowed pay for the same items that he himself had recommended be not allowed to Butler. For making road and assessors' books he was allowed $300; 220 official bonds, $220; 341 certificates of election, $85.25; tax list $1,600.

Butler filed a bill for the following items: Road and assessors' books, $200; tax list $1,446; deed (recording) $4.65; 213 official bonds, $213; 373 certificates of election, $93.75.

Moved and seconded that the clerk and committee eliminate—all amounts charged against the county be stricken out. Carried.

During these years Bethea's administration cost the county $596.22, while Butler turned in a cash excess of $295.

It is not necessary for us to contradict the statement smade by the Sun. The records perform that task admirably.

In reply to our charge that the board vitiated Scott's bond, the Sun publishes the following nonsense that was manufactured for the occasion:

When Scott refused to settle with the board of supervisors they ordered him to give additional security according to law. Instead of Mr. Scott giving a new bond in addition to the one then on file in the county clerk's office, Mr. Scott stepped across the hall of the court house and into the clerk's office and asked Mr. Butler for his original bond, which was given to him. Mr. Scott then got two men to justify on the original bond. Mr. Butler, as county clerk, was the custodian of the treasurer's bond and it was his duty not to let it go outside of his office or allow it to be changed in any manner, no more than any other instrument filed in his office, and he knew that he was doing wrong when he let Mr. Scott add additional names to it. If he didn't he was not a competent person to be county clerk. But we all know that Mr. Butler was a bright young man. Butler should not have let Scott tamper with the original bond, and he knew that he was doing wrong when he did so. When the bond with the additional signatures was presented to the board of supervisors for approval they rejected it, and the record of the proceedings of the board will show this to be a fact. How, then, did the board vitiate Scott's bond?

There is hardly a word of truth in the foregoing. The facts are these: The board adopted a resolution instructing Scott to give "additional security." Ed Butler was clerk of the board at the time. He arose from his seat and asked the board if it was the understanding that Scott was to give a new bond or get more signers on the old one. In answer to this Old Honest John Crawford said it was the intention that he should get additional signers on the old bond. Butler told them then and there that such action would invalidate the bond, but a pop majority knew what it was doing. This is just what took place in regard to that bond transaction and we think competent testimony can be found to sustain our position.

The bond with the additional signers was not rejected because the new names had been added and the records do not so state. It was rejected because with the "additicnal security" the board said it was still insufficient. If there had been twenty-five names added instead of two the board would have approved it.

It would look a great deal better for the Sun to put in its time "uniting democracy" instead of defending pseudo-reformers.

THE sugar and chicory bounty bill has gone to the governor. It is very questionable whether or not he will sign it.

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